

GenStore:

A High-Performance In-Storage Processing System for Genome Sequence Analysis

P&S SSD: Wednesday, 9 November 2022

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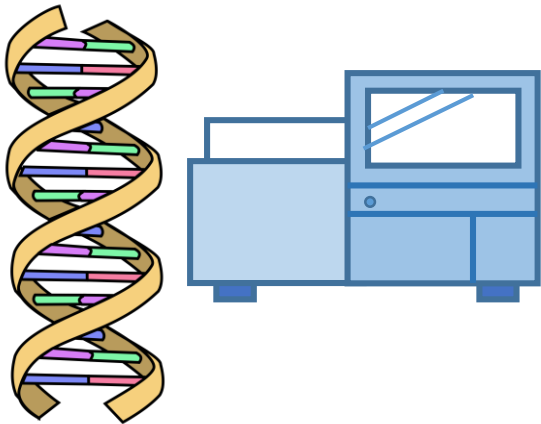
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Genome Sequence Analysis

- **Genome sequence analysis** is critical for many applications
 - Personalized medicine
 - Outbreak tracing
 - Evolutionary studies
- Genome sequencing machines extract smaller fragments of the original DNA sequence, known as **reads**



Genome Sequence Analysis

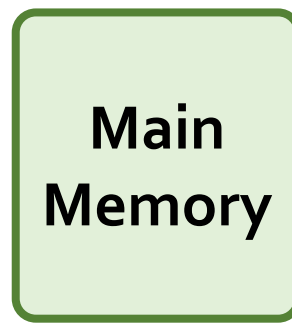
- **Read mapping:** first key step in genome sequence analysis
 - Aligns **reads** to potential **matching locations** in the **reference genome**
 - For each matching location, the **alignment step** finds the degree of **similarity (alignment score)**



- Calculating the alignment score requires **computationally-expensive approximate string matching (ASM)** to account for **differences** between reads and the reference genome due to:
 - Sequencing errors
 - Genetic variation

Genome Sequence Analysis

Data Movement from Storage



Alignment

Computation Unit
(CPU or Accelerator)

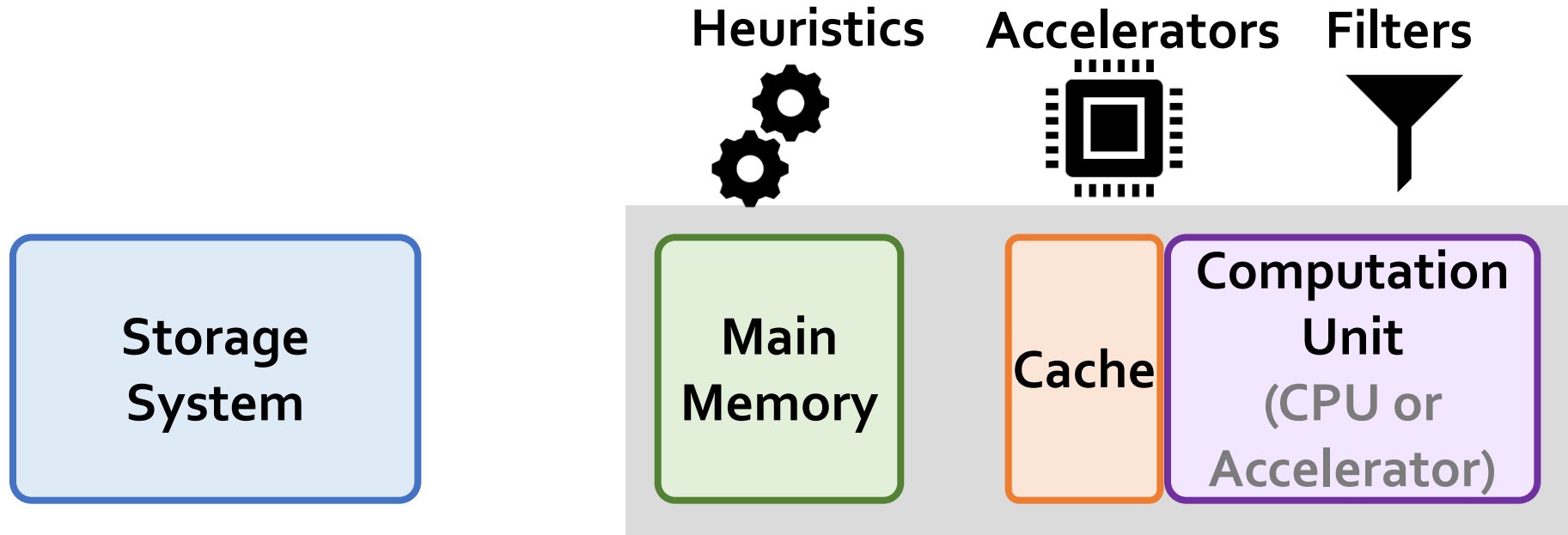


Computation overhead



Data movement overhead

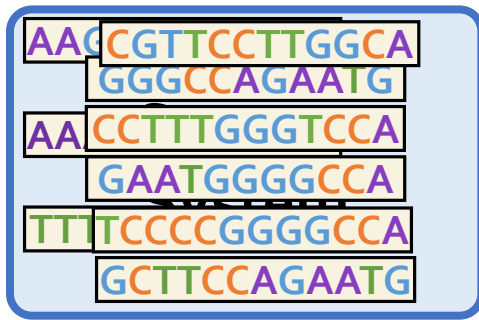
Accelerating Genome Sequence Analysis



Key Idea



*Filter reads that do **not** require alignment inside the storage system*



Filtered Reads

**Main
Memory**

Cache

**Computation
Unit**
(CPU or
Accelerator)

Exactly-matching reads

Do not need expensive approximate string matching during alignment

Non-matching reads

Do not have potential matching locations and can skip alignment

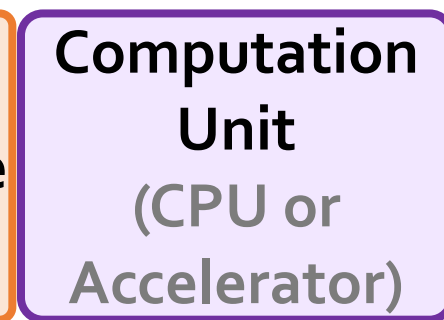
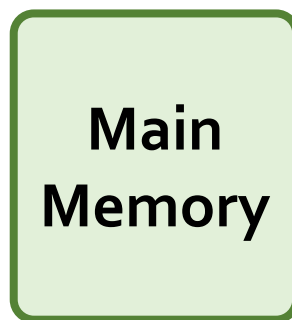
Challenges



*Filter reads that do **not** require alignment
inside the storage system*



Filtered Reads



Read mapping workloads can exhibit different behavior

There are **limited hardware resources**
in the storage system

GenStore



*Filter reads that do **not** require alignment
inside the storage system*

GenStore-Enabled
Storage
System

Main
Memory

Cache

Computation
Unit
(CPU or
Accelerator)



Computation overhead



Data movement overhead

GenStore provides significant speedup (1.4x - 33.6x) and
energy reduction (3.9x – 29.2x) at low cost

Outline

Background

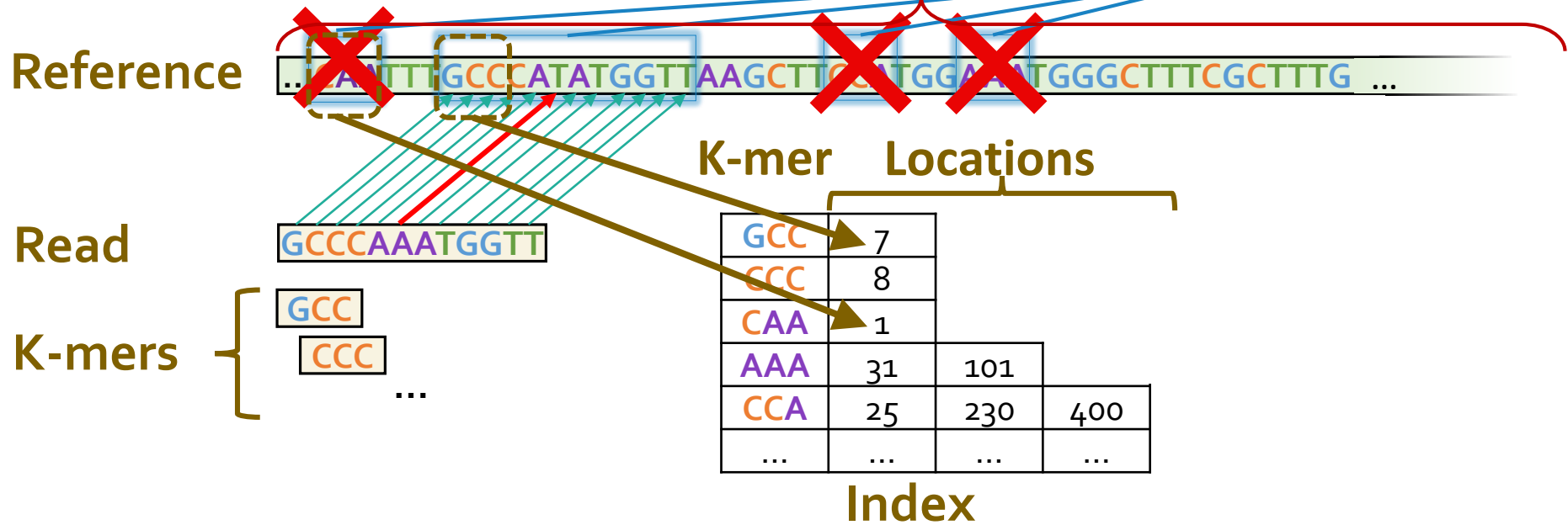
Motivation and Goal

GenStore

Evaluation

Conclusions

Read Mapping Process > 3 billion characters Seeds



Seeding	Determine potential matching locations (seeds) in the reference genome
Seed Filtering (e.g., Chaining)	Prune some seeds in the reference genome
Alignment	Determine the exact differences between the read and the reference genome

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Motivation

- Case study on a real-world genomic read dataset
 - Various read mapping systems
 - Various state-of-the-art SSD configurations

The ideal in-storage filter significantly improves performance by

- 1) **reducing the computation overhead**
- 2) **reducing the data movement overhead**

Motivation

- Case study on a real-world genomic read dataset
 - Various read mapping systems
 - Various state-of-the-art SSD configurations

Filtering outside SSD provides lower performance benefit since it

- 1) does not reduce the data movement overhead
- 2) must compete with read mapping for system resources

A HW accelerator reduces the computation bottleneck,
which makes I/O a larger bottleneck in the system

Our Goal

*Design an in-storage filter for genome sequence analysis
in a cost-effective manner*

Design Objectives:

Performance

Provide high in-storage filtering performance to **overlap the filtering with the read mapping** of unfiltered data

Applicability

Support reads with 1) different **properties** and 2) different degrees of **genetic variation** in the compared genomes

Low-cost

Do not require significant hardware **overhead**

Outline

Background

Motivation and Goal

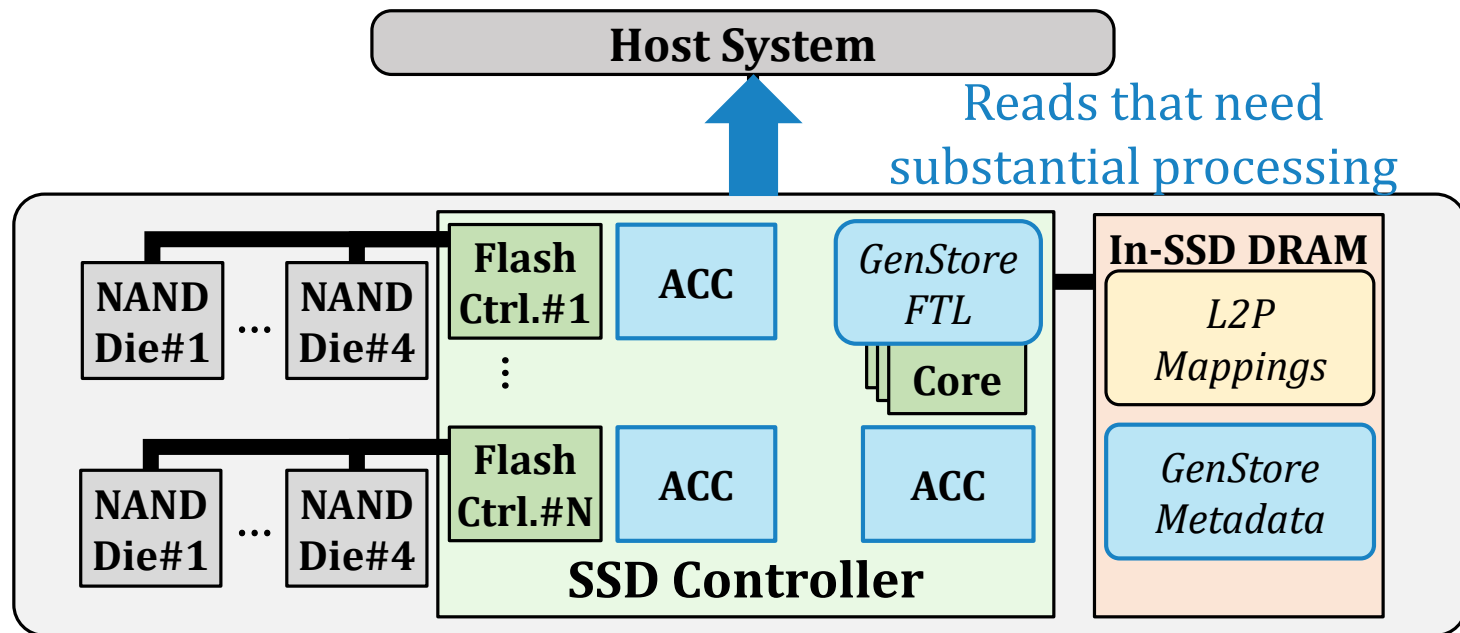
GenStore

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GenStore

- **Key idea:** Filter reads that do not require alignment **inside the storage system**
- **Challenges**
 - **Different behavior** across read mapping workloads
 - **Limited** hardware resources in the SSD



Filtering Opportunities

- Sequencing machines produce one of two kinds of reads
 - Short reads: highly accurate and short
 - Long reads: less accurate and long

Reads that do not require the expensive alignment step:

Exactly-matching reads

Do not need expensive approximate string matching during alignment

- Low sequencing error rates (short reads) combined with
- Low genetic variation

Non-matching reads

Do not have potential matching locations, so they skip alignment

- High sequencing error rates (long reads) or
- High genetic variation (short or long reads)

GenStore

GenStore-**EM** for Exactly-Matching Reads

GenStore-**NM** for Non-Matching Reads

GenStore

GenStore-**EM** for Exactly-Matching Reads

GenStore-**NM** for Non-Matching Reads

GenStore-EM

- Efficient in-storage filter for reads with at least one **exact match** in the reference genome
- Uses **simple operations**, without requiring alignment
- **Challenge:** large number of **random accesses per read** to the reference genome and its index

Expensive random accesses to flash chips

Limited DRAM capacity inside the SSD

GenStore-EM: Data Structures

- **Read-sized k-mers:** to reduce the number of accesses per each read



- **Sorted read-sized k-mers:** to avoid random accesses to the index

✓ Sequential scan of the read set and the index

GenStore-EM: Data Structures

Sorted Read Table

	Read
	AAAAAAAAAAAA
	AAAAAAAAAAG
	AAAAAAAAACT
	...



Sorted K-mer Index

K-mer	
AAAAAAAAAAAA	
AAAAAAAAAAC	
AAAAAAAAAAT	
...	

Read-sized
K-mers

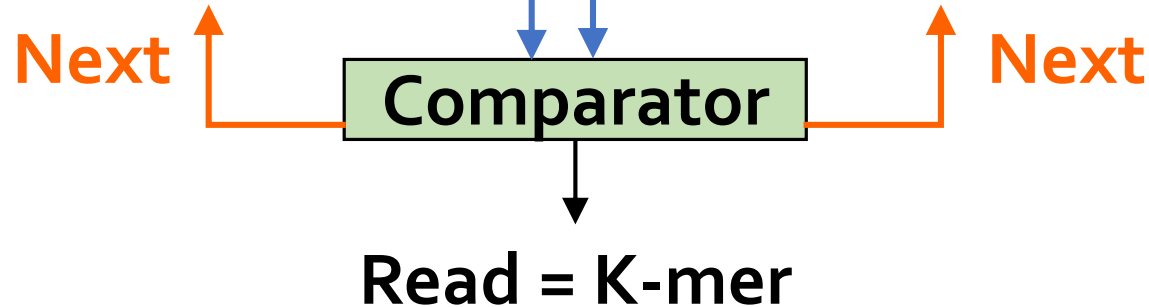
GenStore-EM: Finding a Match

Sorted Read Table

	Read
	AAAAAAAAAAAA
	AAAAAAAAAAAG
	AAAAAAAAAACT
	...

Sorted K-mer Index

K-mer	
AAAAAAAAAAAA	
AAAAAAAAAAAC	
AAAAAAAAAAAT	
...	



Exact match → Filter the read

GenStore-EM: Not Finding a Match

Sorted Read Table

	Read
	AAAAAAAAAAAA
	AAAAAAAAAAG
	AAAAAAAAAACT
	...

Sorted K-mer Index

K-mer	
AAAAAAAAAAAA	
AAAAAAAAAAAC	
AAAAAAAAAAAT	
...	

Comparator

Read > K-mer

Next

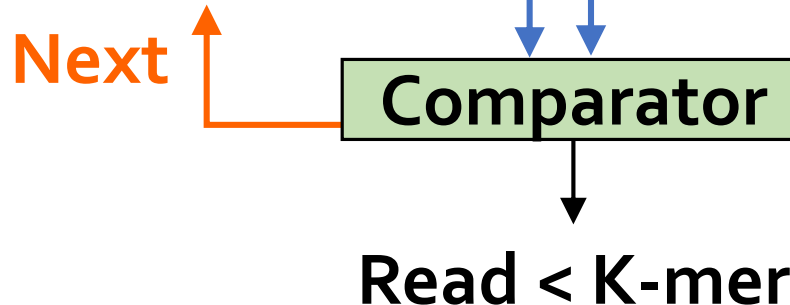
GenStore-EM: Not Finding a Match

Sorted Read Table

	Read
	AAAAAAAAAAAA
	AAAAAAAAAAAG
	AAAAAAAAAACT
	...

Sorted K-mer Index

K-mer	
AAAAAAAAAAAA	
AAAAAAAAAAAC	
AAAAAAAAAAAT	
...	



Not an exact match → Send to read mapper

GenStore-EM: Not Finding a Match

Sorted Read Table

	Read
	AAAAAAAAAAAA

Sorted K-mer Index

K-mer	
AAAAAAAAAAAA	

- ✓ Avoids random accesses
- ✓ Simple low-cost logic

Comparator



Read < K-mer

Not an exact match → Send to read mapper

GenStore-EM: Optimization

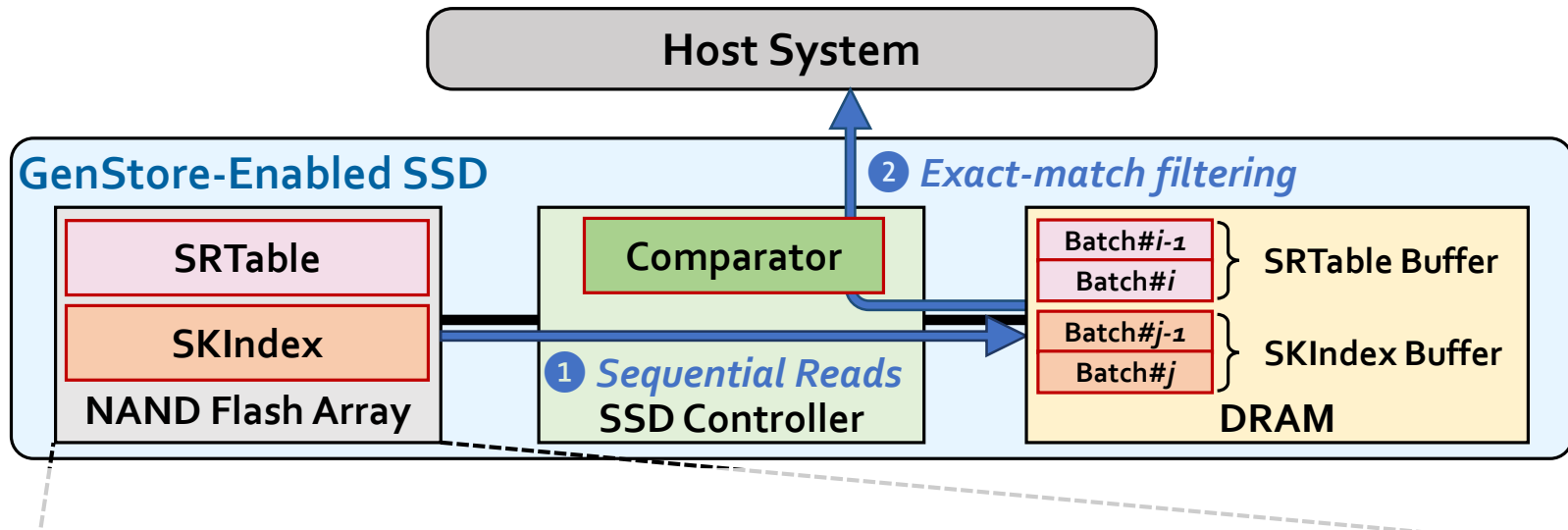
- Read-sized k-mer index takes up a **large amount of space** (126 GB for human index) due to the larger number of unique k-mers

Sorted K-mer Index

Strong Hash Value	Loc.
1	1, 8, ...
4	51
7	23, 37
16	...

Using strong hash values instead of read-sized k-mers
reduces the size of the index by 3.9x

GenStore-EM: Design



Steps 1 and 2 are **pipelined**.

During filtering, GenStore-EM sends the unfiltered reads to the host system.

Data is evenly distributed between channels, dies, and planes to **leverage the full internal bandwidth** of the SSD

GenStore

GenStore-EM for Exactly-Matching Reads

GenStore-NM for Non-Matching Reads

GenStore-NM

- Efficient **chaining-based** in-storage filter to prune most of the **non-matching** reads

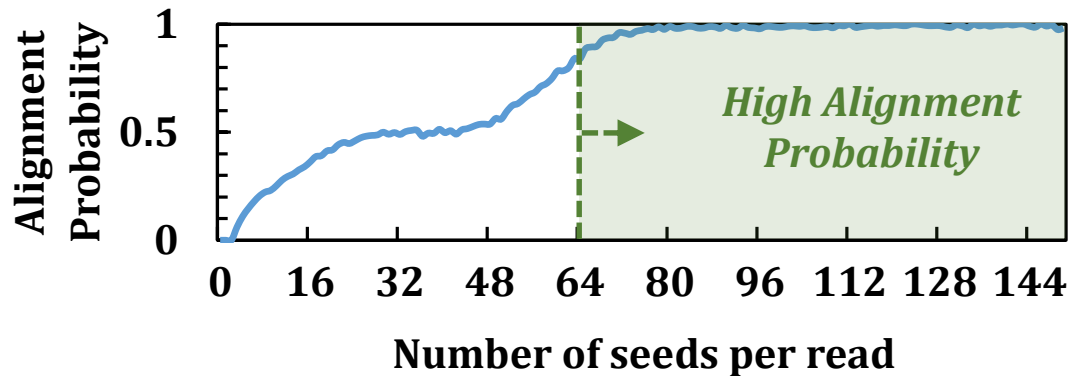
Seeding	Determine potential matching locations (seeds) in the reference genome
Seed Filtering (e.g., Chaining)	Prune some seeds in the reference genome
Alignment	Determine the exact differences between the read and the reference genome

- **Challenge:** how to perform chaining inside the SSD

Costly dynamic programming on many seeds in each read
Particularly **challenging for long reads** with many seeds

GenStore-NM: Mechanism

- GenStore-NM uses a **light-weight chaining** filter
 - **Selectively** performs chaining only on reads with a **small number of seeds**
 - Directly sends reads that require more **complex chaining to the host** system



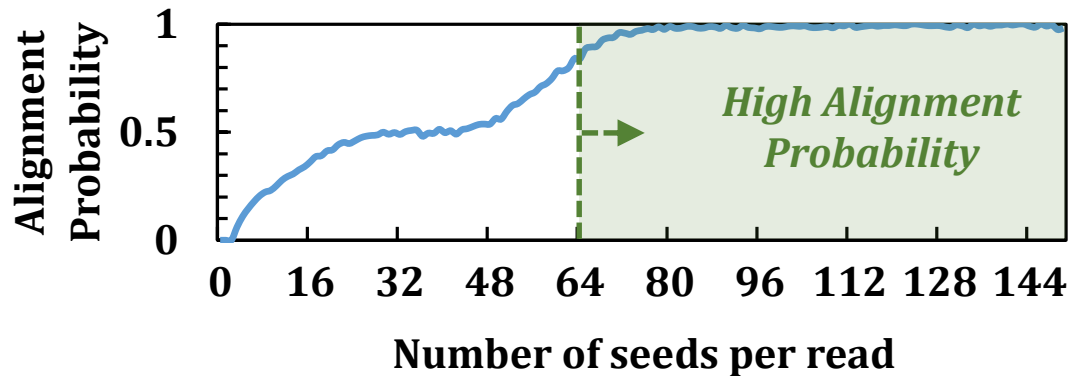
Reads with a sufficiently large number of seeds are very **likely to align** to the reference genome



Filters many non-aligning reads without costly hardware resources in the SSD

GenStore-NM: Mechanism

- GenStore-NM uses a **light-weight chaining** filter
 - **Selectively** performs chaining only on reads with a **small number of seeds**
 - Directly sends reads that require more **complex chaining to the host** system



Reads with a sufficiently large number of seeds are very **likely to align** to the reference genome

Details on GenStore-NM's design are in the paper

Outline

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Motivation and Goal

GenStore

Evaluation

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Evaluation Methodology

Read Mappers

- **Base:** state-of-the-art software or hardware read mappers
 - **Minimap2** [Bioinformatics'18]: software mapper for **short and long reads**
 - **GenCache** [MICRO'19]: hardware mapper for **short reads**
 - **Darwin** [ASPLOS'18]: hardware mapper for **long reads**
- **GS:** Base integrated with GenStore

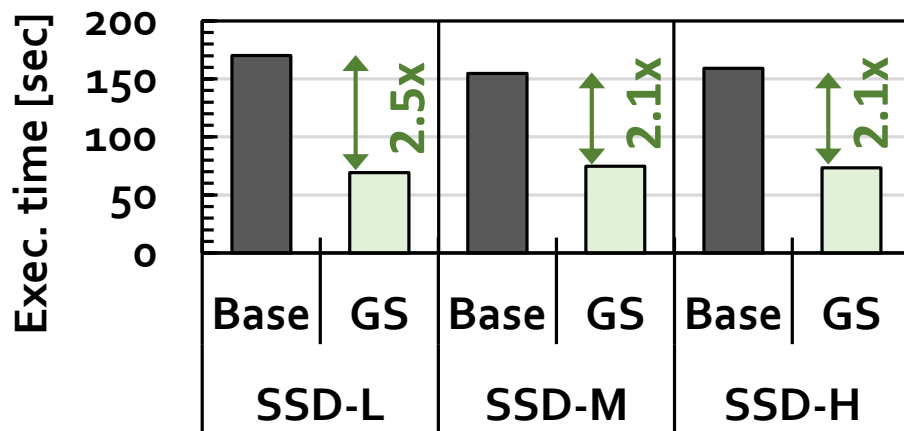
SSD Configurations

- **SSD-L:** with **SATA₃** interface (**0.5 GB/s** sequential read bandwidth)
- **SSD-M:** with **PCIe Gen₃** interface (**3.5 GB/s** sequential read bandwidth)
- **SSD-H:** with **PCIe Gen₄** interface (**7 GB/s** sequential read bandwidth)

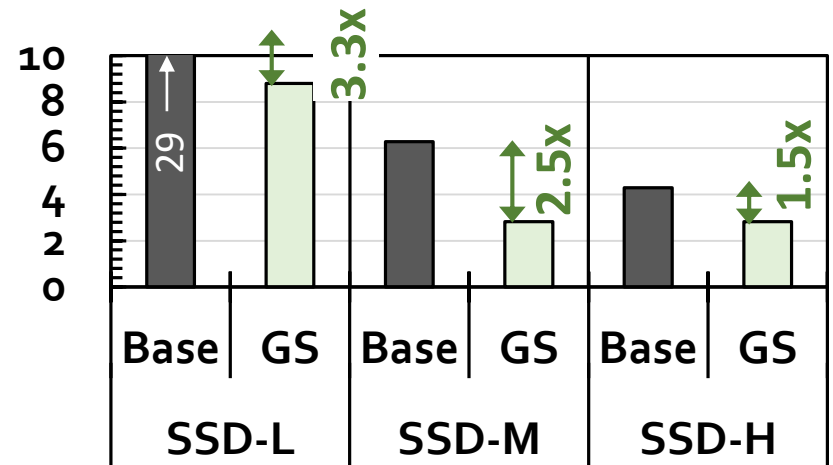
Performance – GenStore-EM

For a read set with 80% exactly-matching reads

With the Software Mapper



With the Hardware Mapper



2.1x - 2.5x speedup compared to the software Base

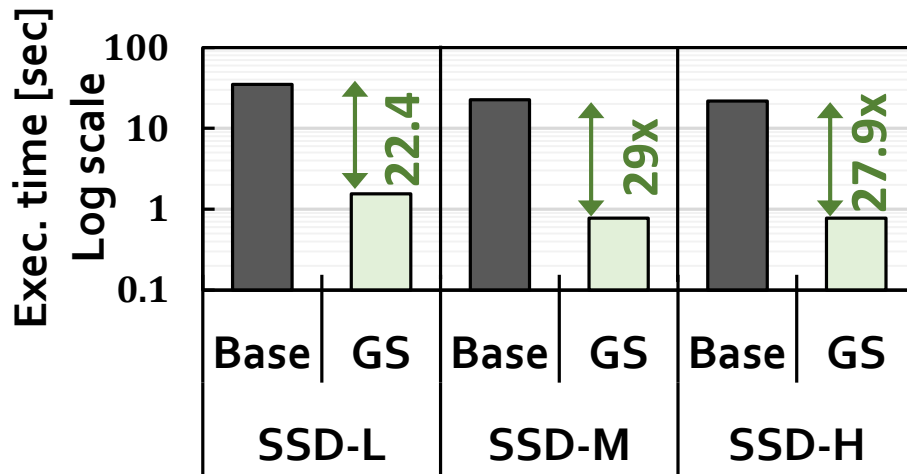
1.5x – 3.3x speedup compared to the hardware Base

On average 3.92x energy reduction

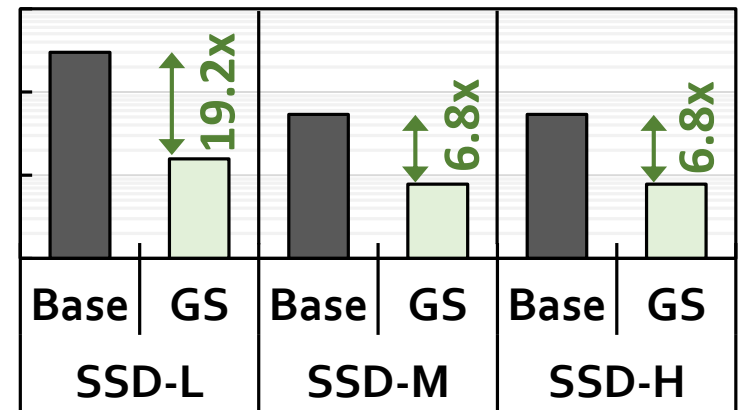
Performance – GenStore-NM

For a read set with 99.7% non-matching reads

With the Software Mapper



With the Hardware Mapper



22.4x – 27.9x speedup compared to the software Base

6.8x – 19.2x speedup compared to the hardware Base

On average 27.2x energy reduction

Area and Power

- Based on **Synthesis** of **GenStore** accelerators using the Synopsys Design Compiler @ 65nm technology node

Logic unit	# of instances	Area [mm ²]	Power [mW]
Comparator	1 per SSD	0.0007	0.14
K -mer Window	2 per channel	0.0018	0.27
Hash Accelerator	2 per SSD	0.008	1.8
Location Buffer	1 per channel	0.00725	0.37375
Chaining Buffer	1 per channel	0.008	0.95
Chaining PE	1 per channel	0.004	0.98
Control	1 per SSD	0.0002	0.11
<i>Total for an 8-channel SSD</i>	-	0.2	26.6

Only **0.006%** of a **14nm Intel Processor**, less than **9.5%** of the three **ARM processors** in a **SATA SSD controller**

Other Results in the Paper

- Effect of **read set features** on performance
 - **Data size** (up to 440 GB)
 - **Filter ratio**
- Performance benefit of an implementation of GenStore **outside the SSD**
 - In some cases, it provides performance benefits due more efficient **streaming accesses**
 - Provides **significantly lower benefit** compared to GenStore
- More detailed characterization of non-matching reads across different **read mapping use cases and species**

Outline

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Conclusion

- There has been significant effort into improving read mapping performance through efficient heuristics, hardware acceleration, accurate filters
- **Problem**: while these approaches address the computation overhead, none of them alleviate the **data movement overhead** from storage
- **Goal**: improve the performance of genome sequence analysis by effectively reducing unnecessary data movement from the storage system
- **Idea**: filter reads that **do not require the expensive alignment** computation in the **storage system** to fundamentally reduce the data movement overhead
- **Challenges**:
 - Read mapping workloads can exhibit **different behavior**
 - There are **limited available hardware resources** in the storage system
- **GenStore**: the *first* in-storage processing system designed for genome sequence analysis to reduce both the computation and data movement overhead
- **Key Results**: GenStore provides significant **speedup (1.4x - 33.6x)** and **energy reduction (3.9x – 29.2x)** at **low cost**

GenStore:

A High-Performance In-Storage Processing System for Genome Sequence Analysis

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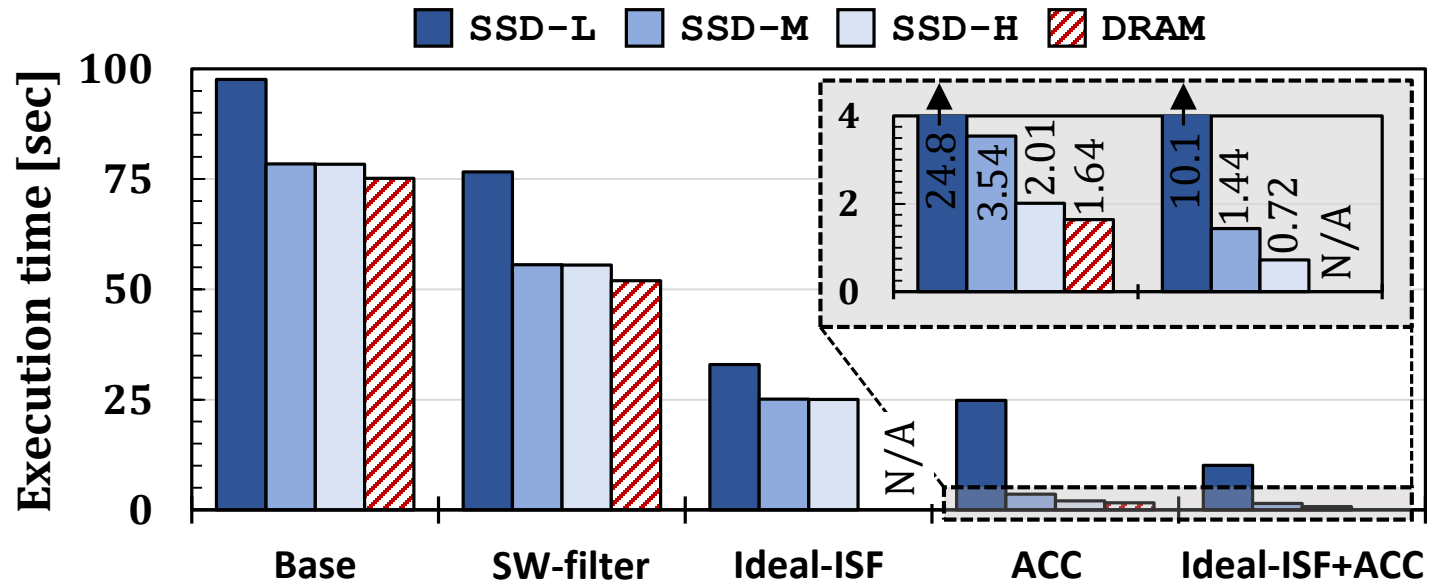
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Backup Slides

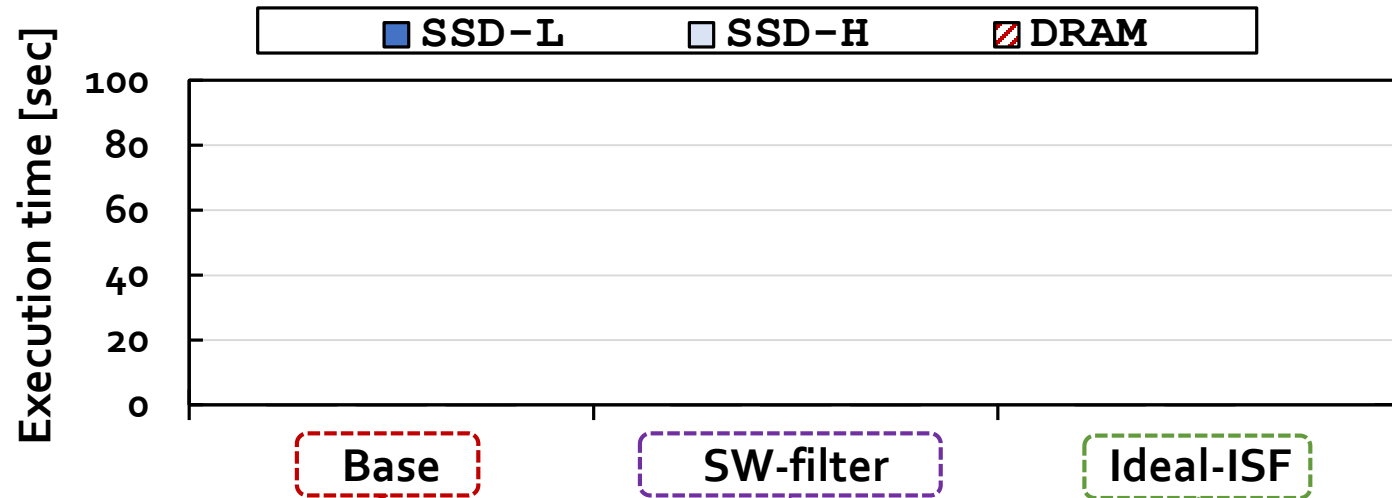
End-to-End Workflow of Genome Sequence Analysis

- There are **three key initial steps** in a standard genome sequencing and analysis workflow
 - Collection, preparation, and sequencing of a DNA sample in the laboratory
 - Basecalling
 - Read mapping
- Genomic read sets can be obtained by
 - Sequencing a DNA sample and **storing the generated read set into the SSD of a sequencing machine**
 - Downloading read sets from **publicly available repositories** and storing them into an SSD
- We focus on optimizing the performance of read mapping because sequencing and basecalling are performed only once per read set, whereas read mapping can be performed many times
 - Analyzing the differences between a reads from an individual and **many reference genomes of other individuals**
 - Repeating the read mapping step many times **to improve the outcome of read mapping**
- Improving read mapping performance is critical in almost all genomic analyses that use sequencing
 - 45% of the execution time when discovering **sequence variants in cancer genomics** studies
 - 60% of the execution time when profiling the species composition of **a multi-species (i.e., metagenomic) read**

Motivation



Motivation



State-of-the-art software
read mapper, Minimap2

Base integrated with a software filter
that prunes **80%** of exactly-matching reads

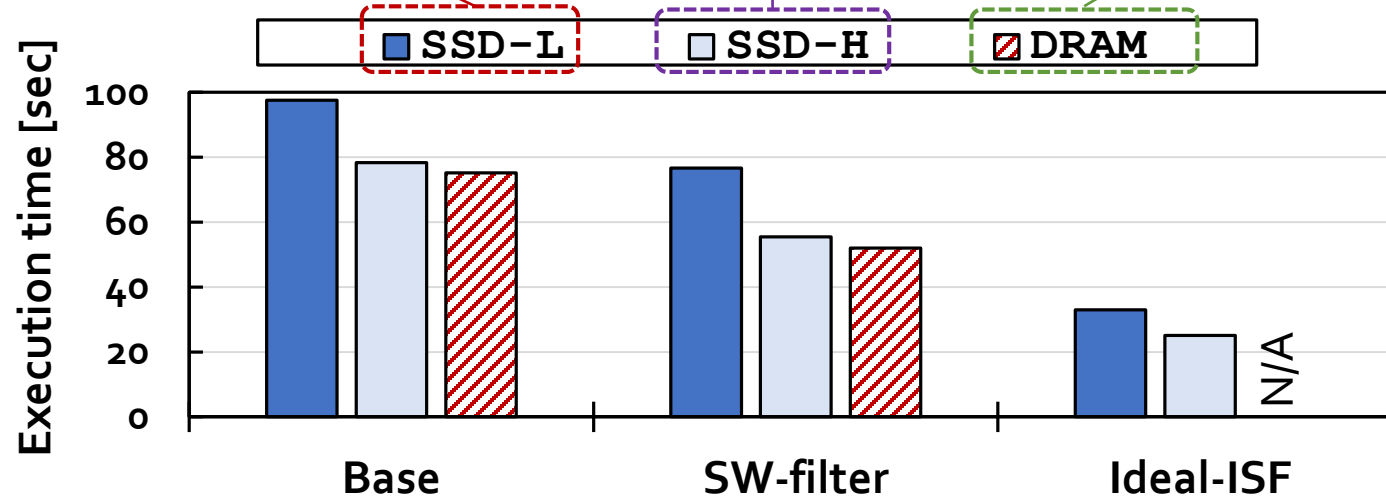
Base integrated with an
ideal in-storage filter

Motivation

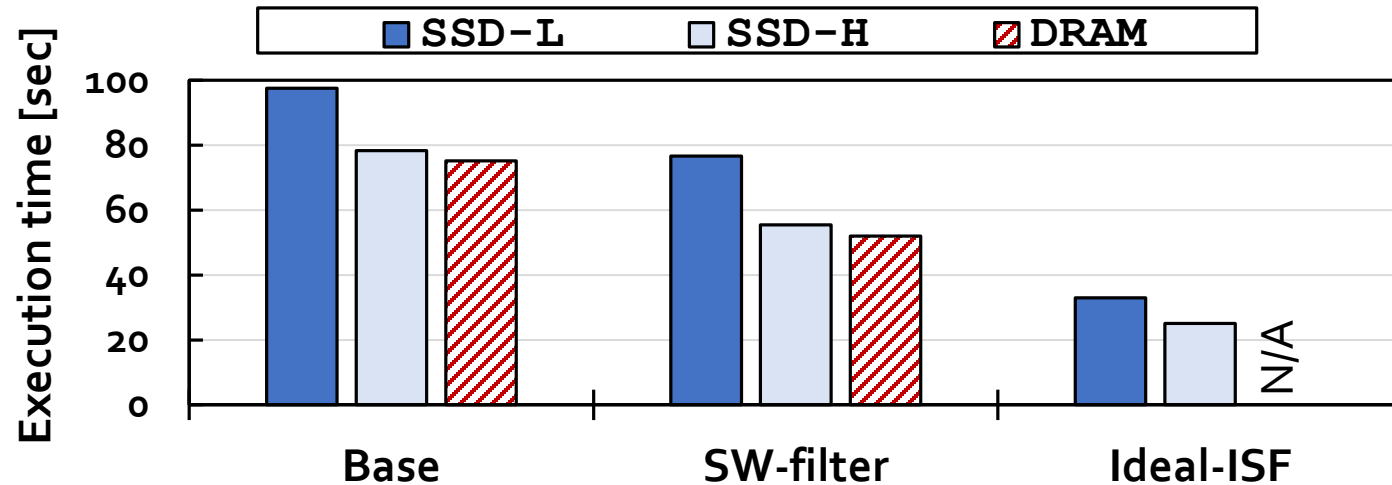
Low-end SSD with SATA₃
interface (0.5 GB/s)

High-end SSD with PCIe Gen₄
interface (7 GB/s)

Data preloaded in DRAM,
with no I/O overhead



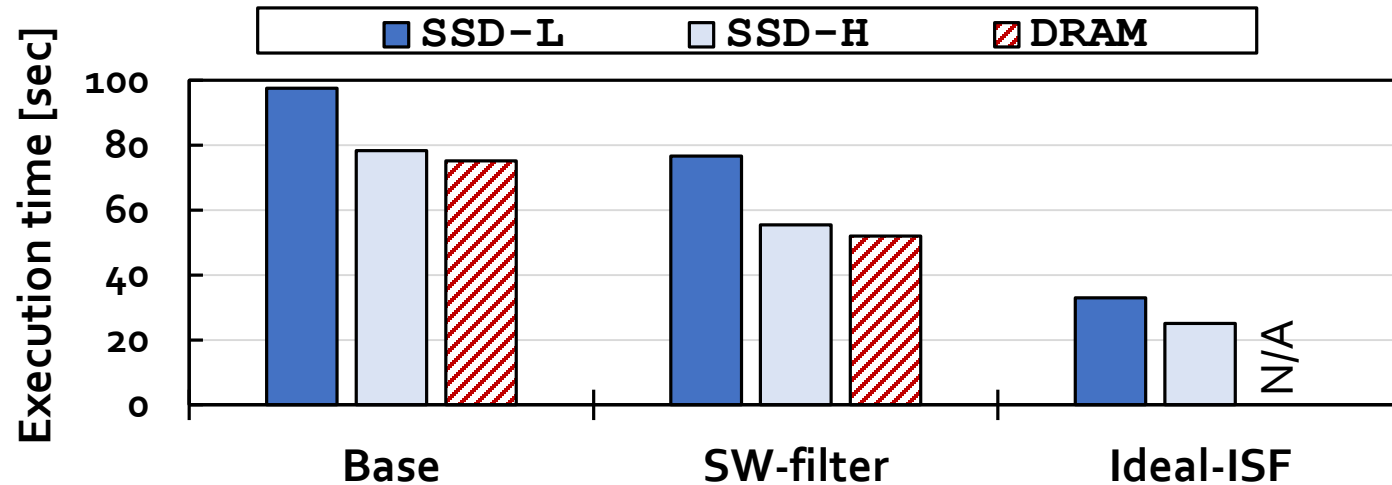
Benefits of Ideal In-Storage Filter



The ideal in-storage filter significantly improves performance by

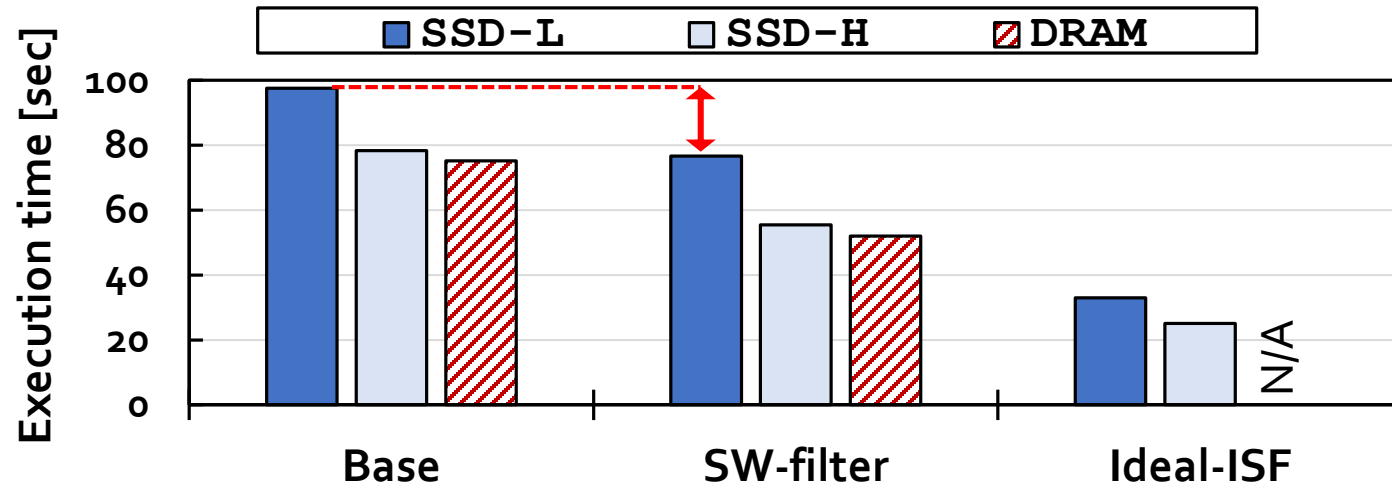
- 1) Reducing computation overhead
- 2) Reducing data movement overhead

Overheads of Software Mappers



I/O has a **significant impact** on application performance
which can be alleviated at the cost of
expensive storage devices and interfaces

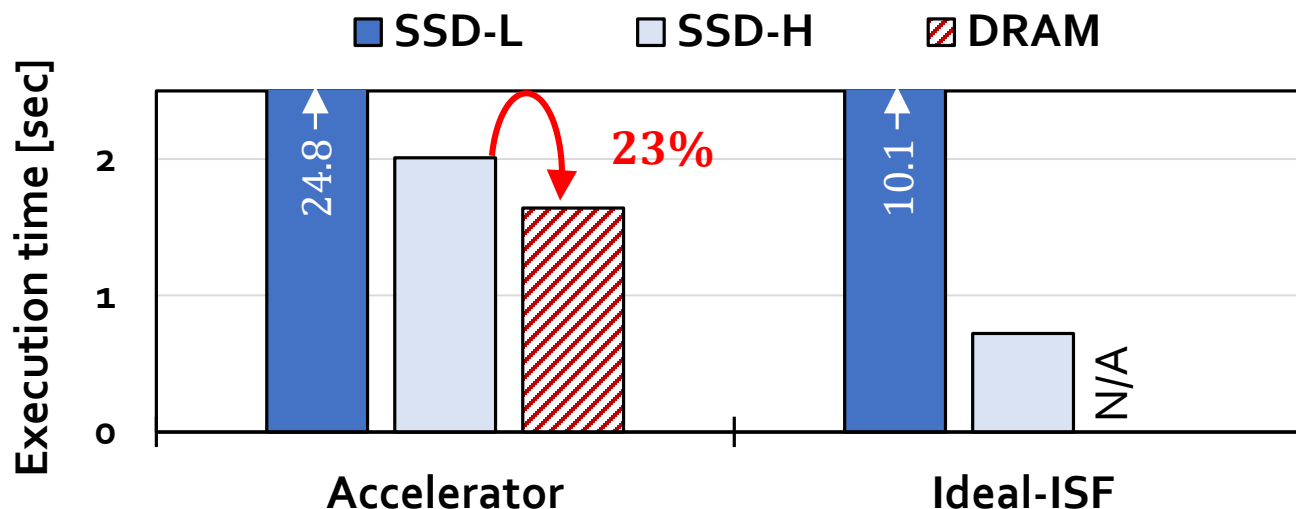
Overheads of Software Mappers



SW-filter provides limited benefits compared to Base

The filtering process **outside the SSD** must **compete** with the read mapping process for the resources in the system

Overheads of Hardware Mappers



Even the high-end SSD **does not fully alleviate** the storage bottleneck

The ideal in-storage filter significantly improves performance

Ideal-OSF

- Execution time of an **ideal in-storage filter**:

$$T_{\text{Ideal-ISF}} = T_{\text{I/O-Ref}} + \max \{ T_{\text{I/O-Unfiltered}}, T_{\text{RM-Unfiltered}} \}$$

- Execution time of an **ideal outside-storage filter**:
 - **60% slower** than Ideal-ISF in our analysis

$$T_{\text{Ideal-OSF}} = T_{\text{I/O-Ref}} + \max \{ T_{\text{I/O-All-Reads}}, T_{\text{RM-Unfiltered}} \}$$

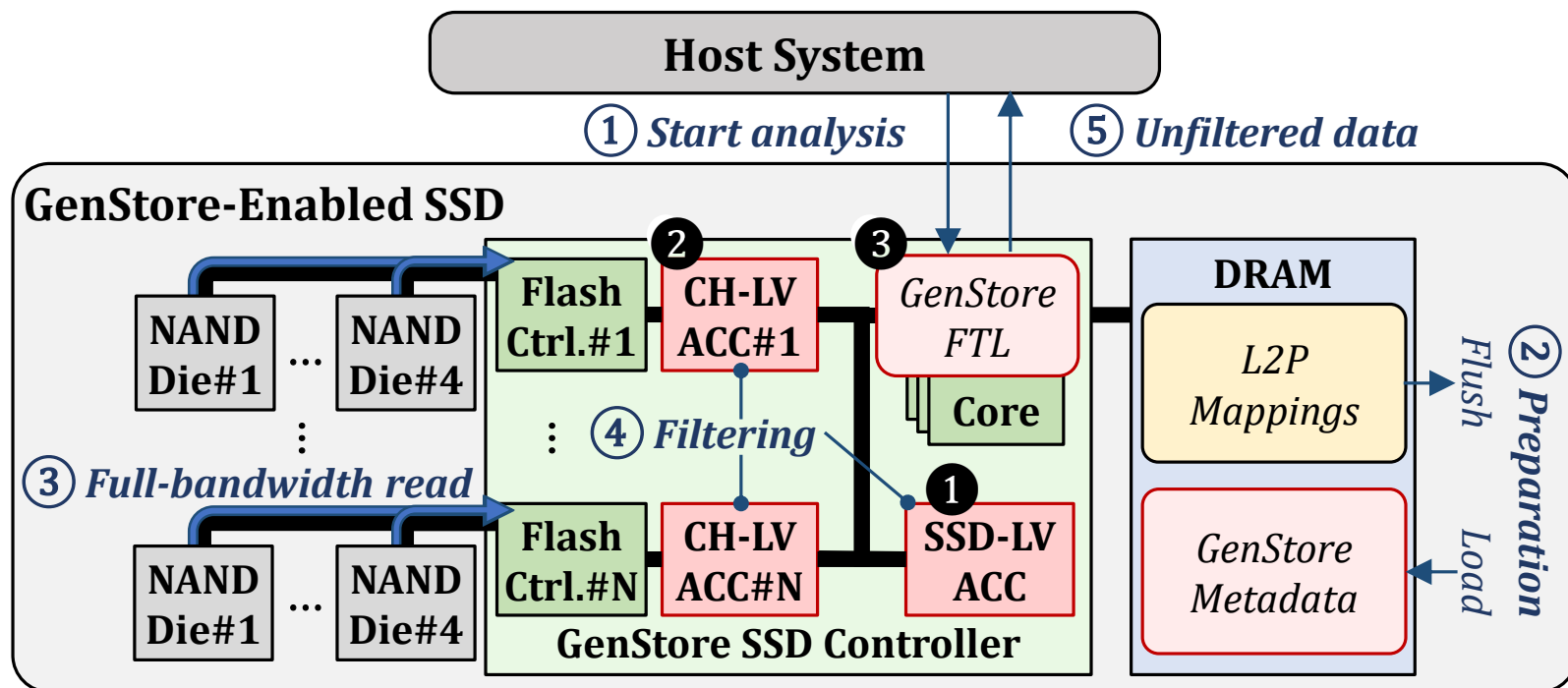
Comparison to PIM

- Even though read mapping applications could also benefit from other near-data, in-storage processing can fundamentally address the data movement problem by filtering **large, low-reuse data** where the data initially resides.
- Even if an ideal accelerator achieved a zero execution time, there would still exist the need to bring the data from storage to the accelerator.
 - **2.15x slower** than the execution time that Ideal-ISF+ACC provides in our motivational analysis

In-storage filter can be integrated with any read mapping accelerator, including PIM accelerators, to alleviate their data movement overhead.

Long Read Use Cases

Use case	Input read set (Short/Long)	Size [GB]	Reference	Align [%]
Sequencing errors	ERR3988483 (L) [157]	54	hg38 [144]	47.4
	HG002_ONT_20200204 (L) [158]	371		69.3
Rapidly evolving samples	SRR5413248 (L) [157]	1.69	NZ_NJEX02 [159]	60.0
	SRR12423642 (S) [157]	0.466	NC_045512.2 [160]	23.1
No reference	SRR6767727 (L) [157]	12.4	NZ_NJEX02 [159]	0.35
	SRR9953689 (L) [157]	15.9		37.0
Contamination	SRR9953689 (L) [157]	15.9	hg38 [144]	1.0



FTL: Metadata

- GenStore metadata includes the **mapping information** of the data structures necessary for read mapping acceleration
- In accelerator mode, GenStore also keeps in internal DRAM other metadata structures of the regular FTL
 - Examples include the **page status table and block read counts** which need to be updated during the filtering process
- We carefully design GenStore to only **sequentially access** the underlying NAND flash chips while operating as an accelerator
 - Requires **only a small amount of metadata** to access the stored data

FTL: Data Placement

- GenStore needs to properly place its data structures to enable the **full utilization of the internal SSD bandwidth**
- When each data structure is initially written to the SSD, GenStore **sequentially and evenly** distributes it across NAND flash chips
- GenStore can specify the physical location of a 30-GB data structure by maintaining only the list of 1,250 (30 GB/24 MB) physical block addresses
- It significantly reduces the size of the necessary mapping information from **300 MB** (with conventional 4-KiB page mapping) to only **5 KB** (1,250 × 4 bytes)

FTL: SSD Management Tasks

- In accelerator mode, GenStore only reads data structures to perform filtering, and does not write any new data
 - GenStore does not require any write-related SSD-management tasks such as [garbage collection](#) and [wear-leveling](#)
- The other tasks necessary for ensuring data reliability can be done before or after the filtering process
 - GenStore significantly limits the amount of data whose [retention age](#) would exceed the manufacturer-specified threshold since GenStore's filtering process takes a short time.
 - GenStore-FTL can easily [avoid read disturbance errors](#) for data with high read counts since GenStore sequentially reads NAND flash blocks only once during filtering

Data Sizes

- Conventional k-mer index in Minimap2 + reference genome: 7 GB (k = 15)
- Read-sized k-mer index before optimization: 126 GB (k = 150)
- Read-sized k-mer index after optimization: 32 GB (k = 150)

SSD Specs

- **SSD-L:** SATA3 interface (0.5 GB/s sequential read)
 - 1.2 GB/s per channel bandwidth
 - 8 channels
- **SSD-L:** PCIe Gen3 M.2 interface (3.5 GB/s sequential read)
 - 1.2 GB/s per channel bandwidth
 - 16 channels
- **SSD-L:** PCIe Gen4 interface (7 GB/s sequential read)
 - 1.2 GB/s per channel bandwidth
 - 16 channels

Evaluation Methodology

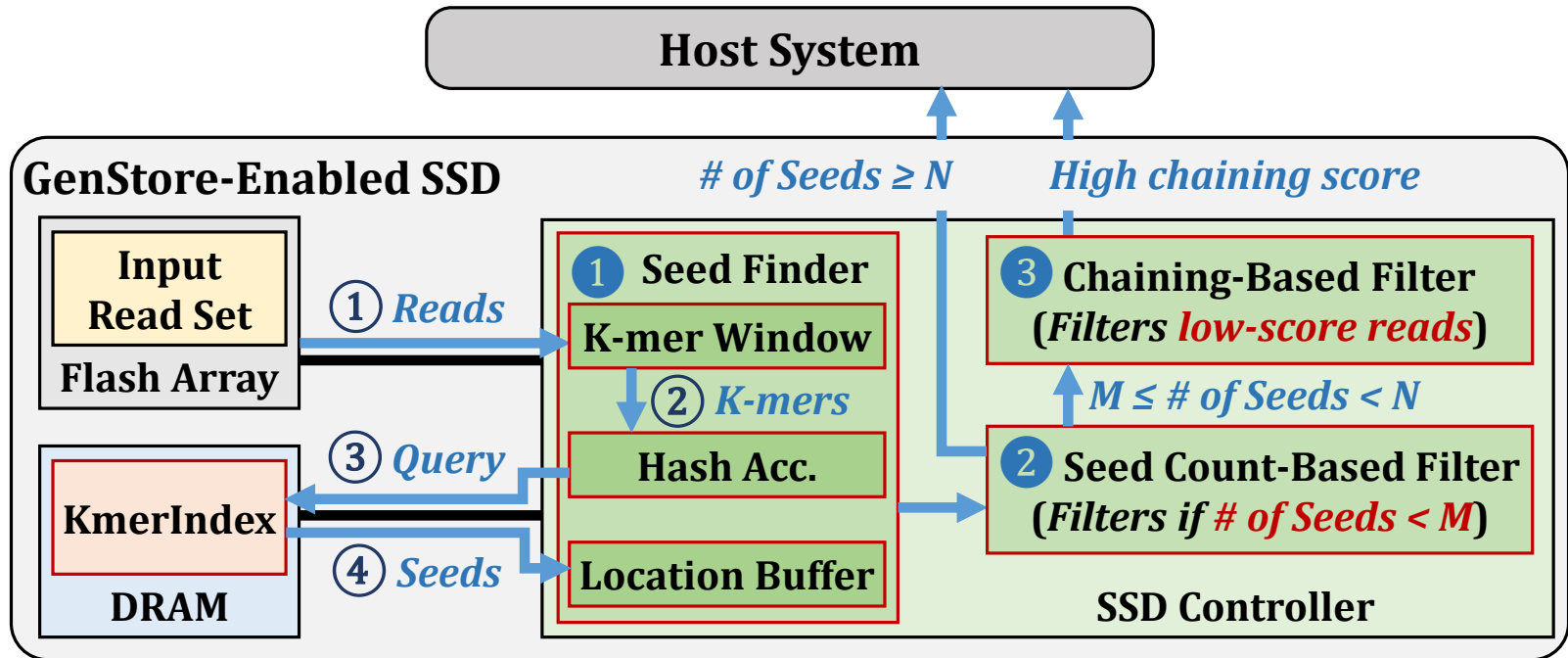
- **Performance modeling**

- Ramulator for DRAM timing
- MQSim for SSD timing
- We model the end-to-end throughput of GenStore based on the throughput of each GenStore pipeline stage
 - Accessing NAND flash chips
 - Accessing internal DRAM
 - Accelerator computation
 - Transferring unfiltered data to the host

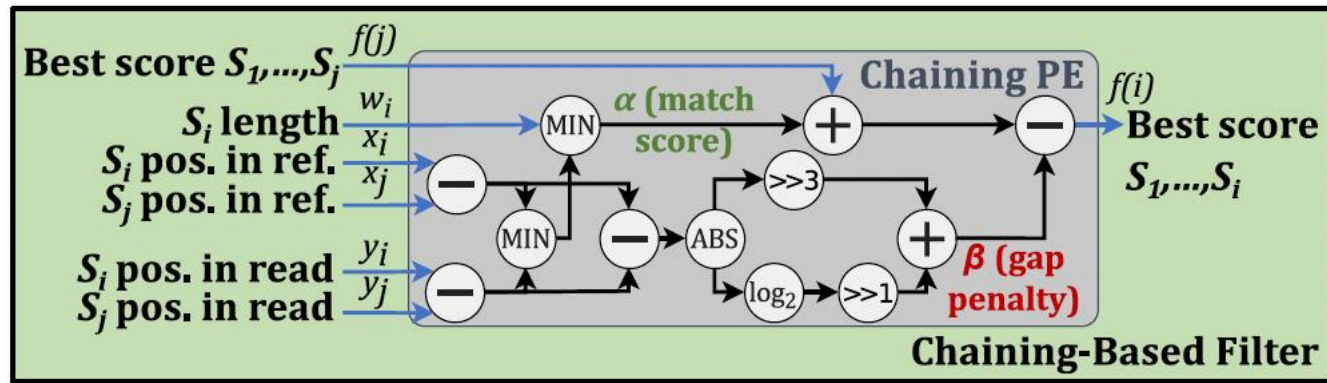
- **Real system results**

- AMD EPYC 7742 CPU
- 1TB DDR4 DRAM
- AMD μ Prof

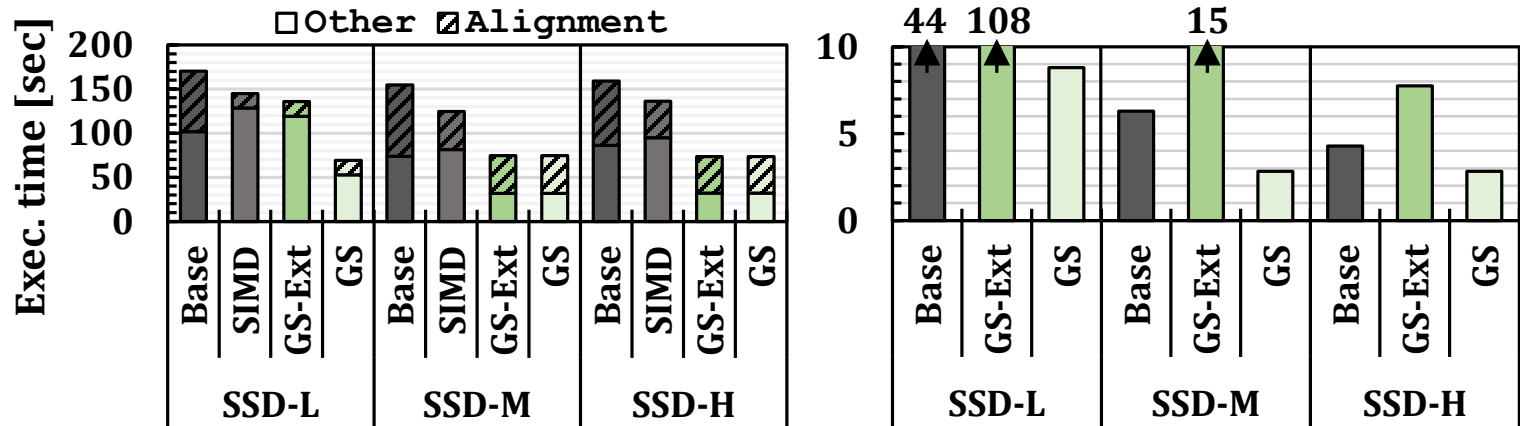
GenStore-NM



Chaining Processing Element



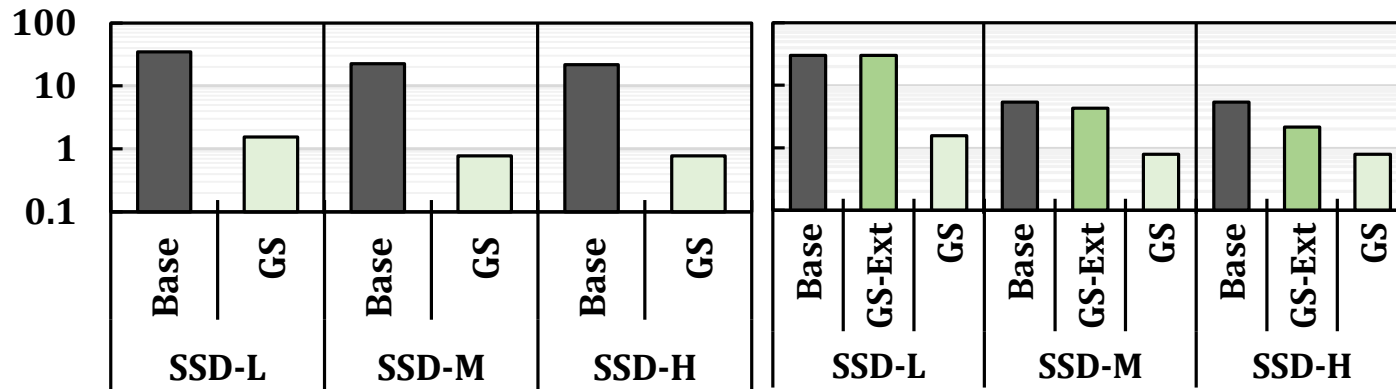
GenStore-EM



GS-Ext provides significant performance improvements over both Base and SIMD in SSD-M and SSD-H.

GS-Ext provides limited benefits over SIMD in SSD-L due to low external I/O bandwidth.

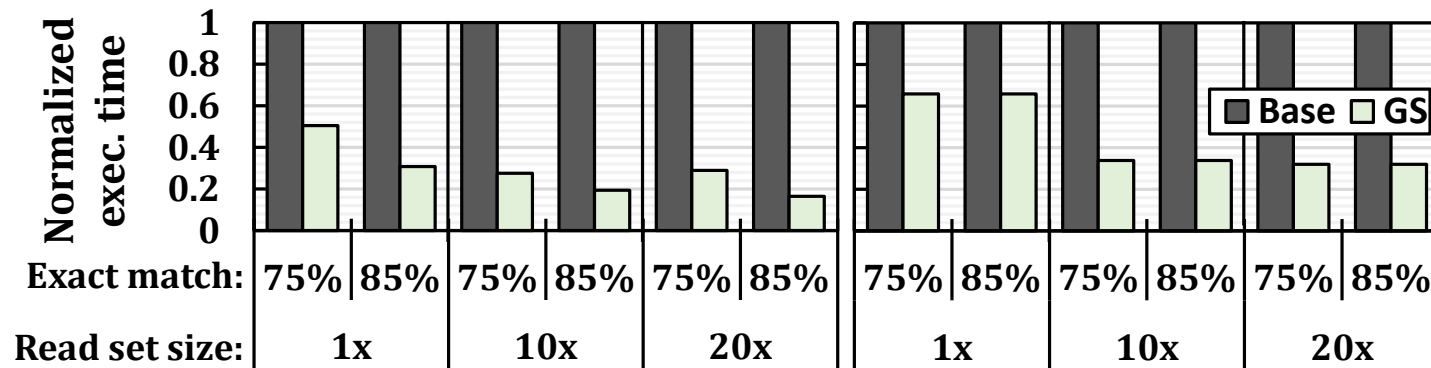
GenStore-NM



**GS-Ext performs significantly slower than Base (2.28x - 1.91x)
on all systems.**

Effect of Inputs on GenStore-EM

$$DM_Saving = \frac{Size_{Ref} + Size_{ReadSet}}{Size_{Ref} + Size_{ReadSet} \times (1 - Ratio_{Filter})}$$



Effect of Inputs on GenStore-NM

$$DM_Saving = \frac{Size_{Ref} + Size_{ReadSet}}{Size_{Ref} + Size_{ReadSet} \times (1 - Ratio_{Filter})}$$

